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ARMISTEAD FAMILY.

The following extract from Mr. C. P. Keith's account, in "Descendants of Benjamin Harrison," gives all that can be relied upon regarding the early history of this interesting Virginia family:

"There is a tradition that the Armisteads derive their name and origin from Darmstadt, and the seat of the elder line in Virginia was called 'Hesse.' Without deciding when or whether in modern times they crossed the German Ocean, it is sufficient to say that they were Englishmen for several generations before William Armistead came to America, the name, with varied spelling, frequently appearing in Yorkshire Records of the time of Queen Elizabeth. The emigrant to America seems, from the names of his children, Anthony and Frances, to have been the son of Anthony 'Armistead,' of Kirk Deighton, Yorkshire, and Frances Thompson of the same place, who obtained a marriage license in the year 1608. On August 3, 1610, 'William, ye son of Anthony Armsteed, of Kirk Deighton,' was baptized in All Saint's Church, the only church in the parish.

"Search for a few years later discloses the fact that this child, whom I suppose the emigrant, passed safely through the period of tender infancy; at least, no burial can be found. His father continued to reside there, having other children, and a contemporary named Thomas Armsteed, who also had a family. The emigrant's marriage did not take place there, if, as I assume, it was later than 1627 and prior to 1634. William 'Armestead' received a patent in 1636 from Captain John West, governor of Virginia, for four hundred and fifty acres in Elizabeth City county, lying southeast upon the land of Mr. Southell, northeast upon the land of John Brancz (Branch?), easterly upon the creek, westerly to the woods; among the persons he had transported to the colony being his wife Anne. The name is spelt 'Armstead' in a patent of 1651."

Hence 1, ANTHONY[1] ARMISTEAD, of Kirk Deighton, Yorkshire, and Frances Thompson, his wife, of the same place, had issue: 2, WILLIAM[2] ARMISTEAD, baptized August 3, 1610, in "All Saint's Church," the only church in the parish of Kirk Deighton. He emigrated to Virginia about 1635, and obtained large grants of land in Elizabeth City county, and subsequently Gloucester county. He died before 1660, as in that year, in the York county Virginia Records, his second son, John, was *heir* of his elder brother William, who died childless. He married Anne, and had issue, as far as known: 3, William, who in a deed recorded in Elizabeth City county, November 20, 1695, is named as his "sonne and heire," and who died without issue before 1660, when John Armistead, "as heyre and one of the Executors of Mr William Armistead, made a power of attorney in York county"; 4, *John*, the councillor and ancestor of President Harrison; 5, *Anthony*, ancestor of President Tyler; 6, Frances, married first, Rev. Justinian Aylmer, of Jamestown;

second, Lieutenant-Colonel Anthony Elliott, of Elizabeth City county and Middlesex county; third, Col. Christopher Wormeley. She died May 25, 1685. (Middlesex Parish Register.) In January, 1666, the will of Col. Elliott was admitted to record in Middlesex county. He names sons William, Thomas, Robert, and makes son William and brother John Armistead executors. In November, 1666, probate was granted Mr. Christopher Wormeley, in place of William Elliott and John Armistead, "as having married the relict." In 1671 Captain Wormeley sued, as having married the relict of Rev. Justinian Aylmer, of Jamestown. (General Court Records.) Aylmer, by his deposition in York county, was twenty-six in 1661. (See also Hayden's *Virginia Genealogies, Wormeley Family.*) 7, Probably Ralph, who in 1678 patented forty-eight acres in Kingston parish, Gloucester county, for transporting one person. Was this Ralph father of John Armistead, of Rappahannock county? Under date of 1689 is this order: "Upon the information of Edwd Thomas that Mr Dewell Pead, minister of South Farnham parish in this county, hath solemnized the rites of matrimony between John Armistead and Mary Brown, both of the same parish and county, contrary to the form of the acts of Assembly, &c., ordered, &c." Mr. Pead is summoned to the next court to answer, but the case was evidently dropped, as no further order appears. John Armistead's inventory was recorded in Essex county in 1703, and Frances Moore was administrator. Across in Richmond county, formerly part of old Rappahannock, is recorded the will of Francis Armistead, of South Farnham parish, proved in 1719. It names daughter Elizabeth, son John Armistead, wife Sarah, and in default of surviving issue gives his property to Francis Armistead, son of Ralph Armistead. The register preserved in the courthouse shows that his daughter Elizabeth was born March 28, 1716, and son John was born February 26, 1718. It is probable that from this source, principally, come the Armisteads whose names appear in the register of Kingston parish, Mathews county (formerly Gloucester). The entries are brought together here for convenience:

Anne, daughter of Robert and Catharine Armistead, born October 17, 1756.

Anne, daughter of John and Anne Armistead, born April 1, 1769.

Ralph, son of Richard and Elizabeth Armistead, born June 10, 1769.

William, son of William and Mary Armistead, born October 26, 1769.

Francis, son of Currill and Margaret Armistead, born December 8, 1772.

Katy, daughter of Richard and Elizabeth Armistead, born Jauuary 21, 1775.

Dorothy Reade, daughter of George and Lucy Armistead, born May 23, 1775.

Sarah, daughter of Wm. Armistead, Esq., and Mary, his wife, born February 22, 1776.

Mr. Starkey Armistead and Miss Mary Tabb were married June 19, 1773.

Isaac Davis and Rebecca Armistead were married January 9, 1771.

[*To be continued.*]

MACON FAMILY.

ST. PETER'S PARISH REGISTER, NEW KENT CO., VA.

Gideon, son of Gideon Macon and ——, his wife, natt the 20th June and bapt. the 22 June, 1682. Ann, the daughter of Gideon Macon and Martha,[1] his wife, natt the 15th Dec., bapt. the 2d Feb., 1685.

William, son of Gideon Macon, born the 12th Nov^r, 1693.
William, son of Mr. Gideon Macon and Martha, his wife, born the 11th Nov^r, 1693. } [2]

John, son as above, born the 17th Dec^r, 1695.

James, son as above, born the 28th October, 1701.

Anne, daughter of Wm. Macon, Gent., born Oct. 21, 1720.

Martha, daughter of Wm. Macon, Gent., born August 12, 1722.

Henry, the son of Wm. Macon and Mary, his wife, born Sept. 13, 1727.

Elizabeth, daughter of Wm. and Mary Macon, born Feb. 15, 1729.

Mary, daughter of William and Mary Macon, born April 17, 1735.

Anne, the wife of John Macon, died February 15, 1724–'25.

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[1] June 24, 1703, there was a suit depending in York county, between Nathaniel West and Martha, his wife, executrix of Gideon Macon, late of New Kent county, deceased, and Richard Packe, of London, merchant. Martha is said to have married, thirdly, a Mr. Bigger, and the Goochland records name, about 1760, a Macon Biggars. We miss from the register Gideon Macon's daughter Martha, who married Orlando Jones, and was the grandmother of Martha Custis, wife of George Washington, but her tomb is at the old Macon place, on the Pamunkey—"Prospect Hill."

[2] These entries are on different pages, and both differ from the Family Bible, which has Nov. 11, 1694. The register, from its unsteady dates, bears internal evidence that it was not kept from day to day.